

STANFORD UNIVERSITY
STANFORD, CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

September 12, 1955

Dr. J. S. Lederberg
Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Josh:

Thanks for your letter on the Symposium and on possible plans for next spring.

The enclosed carbon of a letter to Gaebler and the letter sent to all speakers, will indicate my agreement with your suggestions, and indicate the best practicable improvement I can suggest within the limitations imposed.

The discussion after the first portion can be pretty well primed to bring up the pertinent points on the nature of the gene--genetic and functional pseudoalleles, etc.,--and an attempted interpretation in terms of DNA structure, linking the topic with the morning session.

It would seem best to leave the second discussion period as open as possible, with the hope that the participants from the morning session will take part, and that a general summary will emerge.

I hope that you will plan to take a leading part in both discussions, and in the summary, as well as suggesting others who should be primed. As far as your formal scheduled part is concerned, I see no reason why it couldn't be left flexible, in scope, length, and time in the program, i.e. perhaps following Yanofsky, reemphasizing the concepts and posing some of the questions for the ensuing discussion, and if you wish summarizing after the discussions. Alternatively, I could introduce the 2nd discussion period, with Yanofsky, followed by others, with your "commentary" essentially concluding the session. I'd appreciate your comments and recommendations on these possibilities.

On the question of next spring--all of us certainly hope it can be worked out, and will do all we can to make it possible. The main difficulty, of course, is financial. After discussing it with Twitty, who incidentally is most enthusiastic, it would seem possible to get some support from university or department funds if you'd be willing to handle an advanced course, or perhaps preferably a special seminar. However, this wouldn't be adequate to take care of both your and Esther's salaries. Some time last spring I discussed some possibilities with Ralph Meader. I think his suggestion of approaching the Childs Fund is worth following up, and I'll be glad to do this unless you prefer to yourself? Ralph also pointed out that you would theoretically be able to use funds from your research grants, either NSF or USPH, although a formal request for rebudgeting would probably be necessary. Although my grant research funds are committed for the year, it may well be

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Dr. J. S. Lederberg - page 2

possible to use some departmental funds to a certain extent, for example for Esther. Perhaps the best solution would be for you to set a minimum figure which would make it possible for you and Esther to come without too great a financial sacrifice, and let me see how best to meet it?

On time, Spring quarter, April through most of June, would seem best, with the summer for possible extension of your stay.

We can discuss this further, and the research program, in Detroit.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Ed'.

E. L. Tatum

ELT:ps
Encl.